

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In order to allow a host computer to specify an operable logical unit, a storage system responds extended LU information including at least connection portion numbers, target IDs and logical unit numbers according to an inquiry made from the host computer. In the present invention, an external storage system adds extended LU numbers used in coupling as responses to Inquiry commands to specified logical units.

Owing to such addition, the host computer is capable of collecting responses of Inquiry commands to special device files of all storage systems recognized by the host computer. It is thus possible to obtain a list of extended LU numbers corresponding to all logical units recognized by the host computer. Since such an external storage system using LUN security is capable of effecting coupling operation only on logical units recognized by the host computer, security is enhanced.

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